

REMARKS

Before this Amendment, claims 147-188 were pending. By this Amendment, claims 167-184 have been canceled without prejudice to the Applicants' right to pursue those claims in divisional applications. After entry of this Amendment, claims 147-166 and 185-188 will be pending.

The Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 147-149, 151, 153, 154, 156, 158-166, and 185 are allowable over the prior art.

The rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

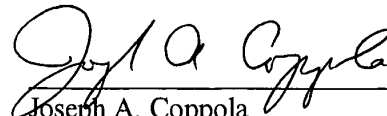
Claims 150, 152, 155, and 157 were rejected because of the reference to figures in those claims. Claims 150, 152, 155, and 157 have been amended to include copies of the figures formerly referenced. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

The time for responding to the Office Action was set for February 4, 2004. Enclosed herewith is a Petition for the Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for a period sufficient to permit the filing of this response and charge any corresponding fees to Kenyon & Kenyon's Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

The Applicants hereby make a Conditional Petition for any relief available to correct any defect seen in connection with this filing, or any defect seen to be remaining in this application after this filing. The Commissioner is authorized to charge Kenyon & Kenyon's Deposit Account No. 11-0600 for the Petition fee and any other fees required to effect this Conditional Petition.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: MAY 4, 2004


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